WO 2005/032396 PCT/AU2004/001296

- 18 -

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. A removable dental appliance having a base adapted for locating inside of an arch of teeth of a wearer and an arch wire coupled to the base, wherein an outer surface of the base is contoured for contact with inner surfaces of the teeth, and wherein when in use the arch wire extends around an outer periphery of a set of the wearer's teeth such that no interconnection between the arch wire and the base exists intermediate the set of teeth.
- 2. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 1, wherein the arch wire extends from one side posterior portion of the base to the other side posterior portion of the base for contact with outer surfaces of the set of teeth along an outside of the arch.
- 3. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the dental appliance is for an upper jaw of the wearer.
- 4. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein, when the dental appliance is in use, the arch wire extends continuously from a left side posterior portion of the base, outwardly behind a posterior tooth on the left side of the arch, forwardly along the outside left side of the arch, rightward along the outside front side of the arch, rearwardly along the outside right side of the arch, and inwardly behind a posterior tooth on the right side of the arch to a right side posterior portion of the base.
- 5. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the arch wire incorporates a plurality of U-loops.
- 6. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 5, wherein the arch wire incorporates four U-loops.
- 7. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the dental appliance is provided with one or more expansion screws for enlarging a maxilla of the

WO 2005/032396 PCT/AU2004/001296

wearer.

- 8. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 7, wherein the dental appliance is provided with a 3-way expansion screw mechanism for enlarging the maxilla of the wearer in left, right and anterior directions.
- 9. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the arch wire is provided with one or more C-clasps.
- 10. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 9, wherein at least one of the C-clasps is coupled to the arch wire at only one end portion of the C-clasp.
- 11. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the arch wire is provided with one or more L-rests.
- 12. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the base is acrylic.
- 13. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the base is provided with a bite plane.
- 14. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 13, wherein the bite plane is an anterior bite plane.
- 15. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 13, wherein the bite plane is a posterior bite plane.
- 16. A removable dental appliance having a base adapted for locating inside of an arch of teeth of a wearer and an arch wire coupled to the base, wherein an outer surface of the base is contoured for contact with inner surfaces of a set of teeth on one side of the wearer's jaw, and wherein when in use the arch wire extends around an outer periphery

of the set of teeth such that no interconnection between the arch wire and the base exists intermediate the set of teeth.

- 17. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 16, wherein the arch wire extends continuously from a posterior portion of the base, outwardly behind a posterior tooth of said set of teeth, forwardly in contact with outer surfaces of said set of teeth, and inwardly in front of a front tooth of said set of teeth to the base.
- 18. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 16 or claim 17, wherein the removable dental appliance is for a lower jaw of the wearer.
- 19. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of claims 16 to 18, wherein the base has a first lingual portion and an opposed second lingual portion, the first and second lingual portions being held apart by a resilient member, the first lingual portion is contoured for contact with inner surfaces of a first set of teeth on one side of the wearer's jaw and the second lingual portion is contoured for contact with inner surfaces of a second set of teeth on an opposite side of the wearer's jaw, and when in use, a first arch wire extends continuously from a posterior portion of the first lingual portion, outwardly behind a posterior tooth of said first set of teeth, forwardly in contact with outer surfaces of said first set of teeth, and inwardly in front of a front tooth of said first set of teeth to the first lingual portion, and a second arch wire extends continuously from a posterior portion of the second lingual portion, outwardly behind a posterior tooth of said second set of teeth, forwardly in contact with outer surfaces of said second set of teeth, and inwardly in front of a front tooth of said second set of teeth to the second lingual portion.
- 20. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 19, wherein each of the first and second arch wires is provided with one or more C-clasps.
- 21. A dental appliance as claimed in claim 20, wherein at least one of the C-clasps is coupled to the arch wire at only one end portion of the C-clasp.

WO 2005/032396 PCT/AU2004/001296

- 21 - .

- 22. A dental appliance as claimed in any one of claims 16 to 21, wherein the dental appliance has anterior wires or springs for urging forward anterior teeth of the wearer.
- 23. A dental appliance substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.